

REMARKS

Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the present application in view of the foregoing amendments and in view of the reasons that follow.

Claims 1-9 are currently being amended.

Claims 10-21 remain withdrawn.

This amendment changes claims in this application. A detailed listing of claims in the application is presented, each with an appropriately defined status identifier.

This amendment is in response to a Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment. The Notice states that the claims filed on August 28, 2006 do not comply with the requirements of 37 CFR 1.121(c). This Response serves to properly present the claim amendments. Specifically, claim 2 presented in the present Listing of Claims no longer has a pre-existing comma underlined in step (i) and claim 6 now has the colon missing from step (a). No new matter is added through this amendment.

Applicant respectfully requests entry of the Amendment and Reply filed on August 28, 2006 with the appropriate substitution of the corrected Listing of Claims provided herein.

Applicant believes that the present application is now in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration of the application as amended is respectfully requested.

The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned by telephone if it is felt that a telephone interview would advance the prosecution of the present application.

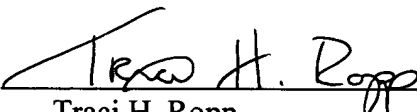
The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required regarding this application under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16-1.17, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 50-0872. Should no proper payment be enclosed herewith, as by a check

being in the wrong amount, unsigned, post-dated, otherwise improper or informal or even entirely missing, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the unpaid amount to Deposit Account No. 50-0872. If any extensions of time are needed for timely acceptance of papers submitted herewith, Applicant hereby petitions for such extension under 37 C.F.R. §1.136 and authorizes payment of any such extensions fees to Deposit Account No. 50-0872.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: December 13, 2006

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